

North Carolina Supreme Court to Andrew Jackson, November 3, 1788, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

COMMISSION OF JACKSON TO PRACTISE LAW IN COUNTY OF DAVIDSON, TENN.¹

¹ This entry in the records of Davidson County, Tenn., is the earliest discovered writing connecting Jackson with Nashville. In the preceding winter the North Carolina legislature had set up Mero District, consisting of the counties of Davidson, Sumner, and Tennessee, with a supreme court to try cases. John McNairy and Thomas Searcy, both fellow law-students with Jackson, were appointed judge and clerk respectively. When they set out for the Cumberland Jackson went with them. They arrived at Jonesborough, Washington County, in East Tennessee, so late that it would be impossible to hold a spring court, and remained where they were until September, when they proceeded on their journey. While in Jonesborough Jackson was licensed (May 12, 1788) to practise law in Washington. (Heiskell, *Andrew Jackson and Early Tennessee*, 2d ed., I. 431.)

November 3, 1788.

State of North Carolina ss

To the Judge or Judges of the Superior Court of law and Equity for the County of Davidson

Whereas Andrew Jackson Esquire hath applied to me the Subscriber, Judge of the Superior Court of law and Equity for the County aforesaid to be admitted to plead and practice as an attorney in the said Court of law and Equity and whereas the said Andrew Jackson from proper credentials to me produced appears to be of an unblemished Moral

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character, and from a previous examination before me had likewise appears to possess a competent degree of law Knowledge for the purpose aforesaid,

I therefore in pursuance of the authority vested in me by the act of the General Assembly to that purpose do hereby admit and empower the said Andrew Jackson to plead and practice in the said Courts of law and Equity within the said county as an attorney thereof with all and Singular the Rights priviledges and emoluments belonging or in any wise appertaining to Attorneys and practisers of the law in the said courts, he the said Andrew Jackson taking the Several Oaths appointed by law for his quallification

Given under my hand and seal this third day of November A. D. 1788, and in the XIIIth. year of our independance

John McNairy. J. S. C. L and E